

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

Preferably, the mats are bounded to each other by water beam needling (i.e., hydrodynamically). The needling takes place from the side of the non-woven synthetic, and with an increased water beam pressure. Preferably, the water beam pressure is in the range of about 100 to 400 bar, and even more preferably about 200 to 400 bar. Thus, a part of the fibers or filaments are pushed through the glass mats, while reducing the damage to glass and synthetic fibers. This process is further described in detail in co-pending application ~~Atty. Docket No. 032745-091~~ Serial No. 09/619,528, filed July 19, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,412,154, and hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

In another exemplary embodiment, the wall and floor coverings are manufactured as described-above, no final consolidation with a binder is performed. This process is further described in co-pending application ~~Docket No. 032745-010~~ Serial No. 09/619,535, filed July 19, 2000, and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.